

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BELGRA 05326 061211Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----011168 061213Z /41
O 061135Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1902

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 5326

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PPDC, YO
SUBJ: PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT TITO

REF: STATE 184567

1. PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER TO TITO IS AN EXCELLENT
STEP IN FURTHERING THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN OUR TWO
COUNTRIES, AND I APPLAUD THE INITIATIVE.

2. BUT I HAVE SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT THE WISDOM OF
REQUESTING A PERSONAL APPOINTMENT WITH TITO FOR THE
PURPOSE OF PRESENTING THE DOCUMENT. MY REASONS ARE
AS FOLLOWS:

A) TITO IS ON BRIONI, WHICH WOULD MEAN A SPECIAL
TRIP FROM BELGRADE TO THE ISLAND SIMPLY FOR THE
PURPOSE OF HANDING THE LETTER OVER PERSONALLY, AT
WHICH POINT I SAY THANK YOU AND GOODBYE. IF THERE
WERE AN ORAL MESSAGE IN AMPLIFICATION OF THE
LETTER (WHICH I CONSIDER MANIFESTLY UNNECESSARY
GIVEN THE COMPREHENSIVE NATURE OF THE LETTER
ITSELF) THAT WOULD BE ONE THING. BUT WITHOUT
SOME SUCH DEVICE MY PERSONAL BUT BRIEF APPEAR-
ANCE AT TITO'S DOORSTEP WOULD, AT A MINIMUM,
BE THE CAUSE OF SOME MYSTIFICATION. AT
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A MAXIMUM IT WOULD BE RECEIVED AS A SUBTERFUGE
ON MY PART FOR THE SIMPLE PURPOSE OF MEETING
THE DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMAN.

B) AMBASSADORIAL TRIPS TO BRIONI ARE USUALLY A
PUBLIC EVENT. IN THIS CASE, HOWEVER, THERE IS AT
LEAST A CHANCE THAT THE GOY -- AND TITO
PERSONALLY -- WOULD RESENT BEING PUT "ON THE

SPOT" IN SUCH A MANNER BY THE U.S. AMBASSADOR IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO A TRIP EASTWARD. ADMITTEDLY, THE TRIP COULD BE MADE IN SECRET, BUT THEN WERE IT TO LEAK IT WOULD LOOK EVEN MORE SUSPICIOUS.

C) I WILL BE PERSONALLY INVOLVED WITH THE EILBERG AND MCGOVERN VISITS FROM AUGUST 8 THROUGH 13, WHICH WILL INCLUDE MEETINGS WITH SENIOR GOY OFFICIALS. TO DROP OUT NOW -- AS THE TRIP TO BRIONI WOULD REQUIRE -- WOULD ONLY EXACERBATE THE CHANCES THAT MY VISIT WOULD BE LOOKED UPON AS SOMETHING OF FAR GREATER IMMEDIATE IMPORT THAN WOULD IN FACT BE THE CASE.

3. THUS, WHILE I WOULD WELCOME AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET PRESIDENT TITO, I HAVE SUBSTANTIAL RESERVATIONS THAT THIS IS THE APPROPRIATE OCCASION. I WOULD LIKE, THEREFORE TO SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVE:

A) I IMMEDIATELY REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY MINIC FOR THE EXPRESS PURPOSE OF DELIVERING A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRESIDENT TITO.

B) AT THAT MEETING I WOULD HAND OVER THE LETTER AND EXPLAIN THAT I HAVE BEEN ASKED TO DELIVER IT PERSONALLY TO TITO, BUT THAT I HAVE COME TO MINIC INSTEAD BECAUSE OF THE CONSTRAINTS ON TITO'S TIME. IF MINIC BELIEVES IT APPROPRIATE, CONFIDENTIAL

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HOWEVER, I WOULD BE GLAD TO FLY TO BRIONI TO DELIVER THE LETTER.

4. IN THIS WAY WE WOULD HAVE GOTTEN THE LETTER TO THE YUGOSLAVS EXPEDITIOUSLY, BUT HAVE LEFT IT TO THEM TO DECIDE WHETHER PERSONAL DELIVERY TO TITO BY THE U.S. AMBASSADOR IS NECESSARY OR TO THEIR ADVANTAGE.

5. I AM CONFIDENT THAT TITO WOULD HAVE THE LETTER WITHIN HOURS OF MY HANDING IT OVER TO MINIC.

6. REQUEST REPLY NIACT/IMMEDIATE SO THAT I MAY PROCEED ON MONDAY MORING EITHER TO REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT WITH TITO OR MINIC.
EAGLEBURGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Reason:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770282-1025
Format: TEL
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770890/aaaacxyk.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ff4fe360-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 1690630
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT TITO
TAGS: PPDC, YO, US, (CARTER, JIMMY), (TITO, JOSIP BROZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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